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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,084	12/02/2003	Gilles Delapierre	117927	1747
25944	7590	05/19/2006	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			ANDUJAR, LEONARDO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2826	

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,084

Applicant(s)

DELAPIERRE, GILLES

Examiner

Leonardo Andújar

Art Unit

2826

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/17/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of group I (claims 1-7) in a communication filed on 04/17/2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) the Office Action has failed to allege a materially different method as required by MPEP 806.05(f). Although the Examiner at some extent may agree with applicant's traverse the restriction is proper because product of claim 1 can be made by a different process of that recited in claim 11. For example, the device of claim 1 be made by a process materially different from that of claim 11 such as a process that directly forms the groove through the cover by drilling a hole from side to side without removing a thickness of the cover to uncover the glass contained in the groove; alternative the groove passing through the cover can be formed in one step and in a following step the groove is filled with glass. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, the fields of search are not co-extensive and separate examination would be require, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (i.e. figure 1) in view of Ruby et al. (EP1071126 A2 cited by applicant).

4. Regarding claim 1, Applicant Admitted Prior Art, hereafter APA, (e.g. fig. 1) shows a component for encapsulation of micro electromechanical systems integrated in a cavity, comprising a substrate 1 wherein the cavity is formed, a cover 3 presenting a front face and a rear face, arranged on the substrate, and means 4 for sealing the cover onto the substrate designed to make the cavity hermetic component wherein the cover includes a peripheral zone (i.e. the area outside the cavity) and a central zone completely covering the cavity.

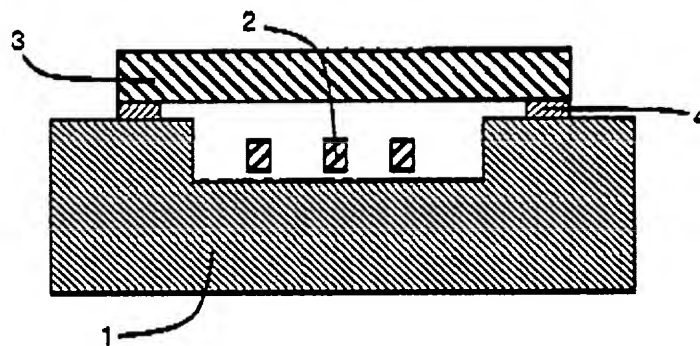


Figure 1 (Prior Art)

However, APA does not show that the cover comprises at least one groove passing through the cover at the peripheral zone and a sealing material deposited at the bottom of a groove. Nevertheless, Ruby (e.g. figs. 1A, 2A) teaches a microelectronic component 10 having a cover 24 including grooves 26/28 passing through the cover and defining in the cover a peripheral zone and a central zone. Also, a sealing material 50 is located at a bottom of the grooves (see fig. 2A). According to Ruby, this type of

Art Unit: 2826

7. Regarding claim 6, Ruby teaches that the cover comprise an insulating layer deposited in the groove so as to electrically insulate the sealing form the cover (col. 6/ll. 30).

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 2, 4 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

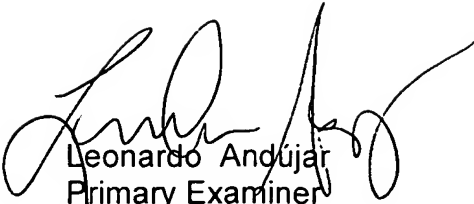
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonardo Andújar whose telephone number is 571-272-1912. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon through Thu from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/725,084
Art Unit: 2826

Page 6



Leonardo Andujar
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2826
